

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO

30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10112-3801
(212) 218-2100

Facsimile:(212) 218-2200

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

TO: Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D.
Examiner
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

FROM: Lawrence S. Perry

RE: U.S. Application No. 09/645,321
Our Ref. 00005.001183

FAX NO.: 703-746-5263

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FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO

30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112-3800
212-218-2100

FACSIMILE (212) 218-2200
WWW.FITZPATRICKCELLA.COM

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1800 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006-1110
(202) 530-1010
FACSIMILE (202) 530-1055

LAWRENCE S. PERRY
DIRECT DIAL (212) 218-2293
E-MAIL lperry@fchs.com

CALIFORNIA OFFICE
850 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 1600
COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA 92626-7130
(714) 840-8700
FACSIMILE (714) 540-9883

November 11, 2003

VIA FACSIMILE

Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D.
Examiner, Group Art Unit 1652
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Application No. 09/645,321
Our Docket No. 00005.001183

Dear Examiner Rao:

Thank you for your telephone call of today. I have now pulled the above-referenced file and reviewed the August 18, 2003 Amendment. I understand your complaint completely.

I very much apologize for the statement characterizing the rejection as "absurd." As I told you, I intended to speak to the associate who drafted the paper for my signature. As it turns out, that associate is no longer with this firm.

I am sorry for the embarrassment this has caused us both. If you wish to make this paper of record, please do so. If you wish me to file a Substitute Amendment, please let me know.

I have consistently enjoyed working closely with you in the past and I do not intend for our beneficial relationship to cease.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence S. Perry

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